

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6903

BILL NUMBER: HB 1531

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 29, 2015

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Video Conferencing by Confined Persons.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Davisson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

- A. It provides that if: (1) a person is confined in a Department of Correction (DOC) facility; (2) the person is required to make an appearance before the judge of a court; (3) the DOC facility and court room have the capability of conducting two-way video conferencing; and (4) the judge orders the person to make the person's appearance by use of video conferencing; the person shall appear before the judge while located in the DOC facility by use of video conferencing.
- B. It provides that if: (1) a person is confined in a county jail; (2) a judge of a court has ordered the person to undergo a mental health evaluation; (3) the county jail and location of the provider of mental health services who will conduct the mental health evaluation have the capability of conducting two-way video conferencing; (4) the mental health evaluation may be conducted by two-way video conferencing; and (5) the judge orders the person to undergo the mental health evaluation by use of video conferencing; the person shall undergo the mental health evaluation while located in the county jail by use of video conferencing.

Effective Date: July 1, 2015.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Depending on the equipment available at the local court and at the Department of Correction facility, this bill could save both the county and DOC travel expenses. The specific savings will depend on whether the court orders these hearings to be held by video conferencing.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: If both courts with criminal jurisdiction and county jails have video conferencing capabilities, the county may save both travel and security expenses if mental health hearings can be performed with video conferences.

The Indiana Sheriffs Association reports that the offices of some sheriffs are equipped for video arraignments.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts with criminal jurisdiction; county sheriffs.

Information Sources: Steve Luce, Indiana Sheriffs Association.

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Goodpaster, 317-232-9852.